



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

June 23, 2014

Date Complaint Received: 6/19/14
Complaint Received By: Chad Reckling, SW II
Provider Name and Location: Kathy Mahlstedt 1623 Devonshire Dr Bettendorf IA 52722
Complaint: The department received information that a household member has not approved by the Central Child Care Assistance Unit but resides in the home.
<p>Rule basis:</p> <p>110.7(3) Record checks. The department shall submit record checks in Iowa for each registrant, substitute, and staff member, and for anyone living in the home who is 14 years of age or older and anyone having access to a child when the child is alone. The purpose of these record checks is to determine whether the person has committed a transgression. The department may use Form 470-0643, Request for Child Abuse Information, and Form 595-1396, DHS Criminal History Record Check, Form B, or any other form required for criminal and child abuse record checks. The department may also conduct criminal and child abuse record checks in other states and may conduct dependent adult abuse, sex offender registry, and other public or civil offense record checks in Iowa or in other states.</p>
<p>Findings:</p> <p>6/19/14 This worker received information from Social Worker Stephanie Thurston that from her sources this individual has resided there for approximately two years. There is currently no safety plan in place with respect to the daycare children that are present within this home.</p> <p>This worker looked in the Kindertrack system to determine if this individual involved was listed as a household member. There were no such listings for this individual in the Kindertrack system. This worker also made contact with the Central Child Care Registration Unit to determine if in their files that this individual has been approved to be involved with child care. The central unit indicated that this individual's name was not listed on the Application for Child Development Home Registration and that they had not been approved.</p> <p>This worker contacted the childcare provider and asked her about the household member and if they were approved to be involved with childcare or reside at their residence. Kathy stated that this person was not approved to be involved with childcare from the central child care unit. Kathy indicated that they were not sure at the time how long this individual would be residing in the home. Kathy indicated that this individual is not present during her child care hours as they work a full time first shift. This worker indicated that they would consult with their supervisor to determine the appropriate safety plan to be put in place for this individual and call Kathy back as to what that will be.</p> <p>This worker consulted with Supervisor Machel Pezley and Field Support Specialist Janice Von Arb who concurred that a safety plan should be created that will insure this individual does not reside in the home and that if the provider wishes them to remain there that they would need to give up their daycare registration.</p> <p>This worker contacted Kathy back and explained safety plan that would need to be signed by her. This worker stated that this individual was never approved to be a household member in her home. This worker explained that if Kathy wanted to consider this individual as a household member that they would need to make application to the central childcare registration unit to have the necessary background checks performed. This worker stated that social worker Thurston would be by later today to have Kathy sign the safety plan with the department and would expect that the individual who was not approved to be out of the house by tomorrow.</p>

This worker indicated that they would have social worker Thurston bring a list of resources for this individual for temporary housing. This worker also indicated that they would be conducting a full compliance visit of the provider's home tomorrow.

6/20/14 This worker completed a full compliance visit of the provider's home today. Non-compliance items were noted. Please refer to letter dated 6/23/14 in the file for further information. There were two daycare children present during today's visit. This worker learned that the safety plan was signed by the provider and social worker Thurston on 6/19/14 and that the household member had grabbed some things yesterday evening and was residing with a friend at this time. This worker did not see the individual household member present during today's visit.

Complaint: This worker received a preponderance of evidence to validate the concerns before the department based on the providers own admission and the lack of a background check on the individual residing in the home by the central registration unit.

Resolution:

Kathy signed a voluntary Corrective Action/Safety Plan that effective immediately:

(Individual) will not reside in the home and will not be present during daycare hours.

Kathy Mahlstedt agrees to the Department of Human Services performing unannounced checks of the home in order to insure that (individual) is not present until they are approved for involvement with childcare.

Kathy Mahlstedt agrees to post this safety plan agreement next to her Certificate of Registration in her home.

If (individual) is found to be residing in the home or present during child care hours, Kathy Mahlstedt's certificate of registration will be revoked.

Kathy Mahlstedt will not allow anyone else to reside in her home in the future without first being background checked and approved by the Central Registration Unit.

The Department of Human Services will conduct random follow up visits to the home in order to insure that the above mentioned safety plan is being adhered to and all items of non-compliance have been addressed. Kathy will resolve all items of non-compliance noted in the 6/20/14 visit to the home by **8/8/14**.

If you have any questions regarding this matter feel free to contact me at (319) 208-5521 or creckli@dhs.state.ia.us.

Sincerely,

Chad Reckling, Social Worker II
560 Division St, Ste 200
Burlington IA 52601